

## WRITTEN OPINION

International application No. PCT/US99/29055

### I. Basis of the opinion

1. This opinion has been drawn on the basis of (*substitute sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this opinion as "originally filed"*):

#### Description, pages:

1-14 as originally filed

#### Claims, No.:

1-33 as originally filed

#### Drawings, sheets:

1/10-10/10 as originally filed

2. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages:
- ☐ the claims, Nos.:
- ☐ the drawings, sheets:

3. This opinion has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed (Rule 70.2(c)):

4. Additional observations, if necessary:

### V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

#### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-6,8,11,16-19,24-31
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	7,9-10,12-15,20-23,32-33
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	

#### 2. Citations and explanations

see separate sheet